

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Article 30, Chapter 136, Public Laws of 1923, changes the method of adopting elementary text-books for the schools of the State. This law provides that not more than one major and two minor subjects can be changed in any one year, provided satisfactory arrangements are made as to prices and distribution in the indefinite contracts for the remaining books. In this way the change of a great number of books in any one year is avoided.

The Text-book Commission in its report of November 1, 1927, submitted to the State Board of Education multiple lists in the major subject of language and grammar and in the minor subject of health. From these lists adoptions were made for a five-year period. These contracts are valid as of June 1, 1928, and become effective in the school year 1928-29. All other books now on the list were contracted for in indefinite contracts, that is for not less than one nor more than five years.

In renewing the old contracts for elementary text-books and in making new contracts, the State Board of Education made every effort known to it to secure the lowest possible retail prices to the patrons of the public schools. In order to do this it was found necessary to make two kinds of contract. For the information of boards of education, local dealers, and patrons of the schools the law, both contract forms, and the list of books under each form of contract, are printed herein. The expression "central depository" and "local depository" are clearly defined in these contract forms.

The main features in the two contract forms are as follows:

a. **The retail contract.** Under the retail form of contract the local depositories secure their books through a central depository located in Raleigh. The books are delivered prepaid to the local depositories on consignment, and are sold to the patrons at the contract prices printed on the back of the book. After deducting its commission, the local depository settles with the central depository. Under section 4 of the retail contract form the following companies have been designated to sell their books in this way:

Ginn and Company

D. C. Heath and Company

Houghton Mifflin Company

Johnson Publishing Company

Laidlaw Brothers, Inc.

Row, Peterson & Company

Scott, Foresman and Company

University Publishing Company

Alfred Williams & Company

Zaner & Bloser Company

b. **The wholesale contract.** Under the wholesale form of contract the local dealer buys direct from the publisher at the net f. o. b. prices printed herein. The local dealer also pays the carrying charges on these books, as the prices listed herein are f. o. b. prices. The local dealer then retails them to the patrons of the public schools at a price not to exceed the retail price printed on the cover of each book, which retail price has been fixed, under the contract, by the State Board of Education. This is a purchase and not a consignment. The following companies have signed the wholesale contract:

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